

ON THE DISCOVERY OF A PTEROPOD IN BRITISH EOCENE STRATA, WITH THE DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES.

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THE Paris basin, so rich in the remains of fossil Tertiary Mollusca, contains at least six species of Pteropoda, appertaining to the genera *Spirialis*, *Valvatina*, *Thecopsella*, and *Euchilotheca*; but this group has never been recorded, so far as I am aware, as occurring in the Eocene or Oligocene beds of this country. Examining some fossil Mollusca in the Edwards collection at the Natural History Museum, I found a specimen from Bracklesham which is an undoubted Pteropod, belonging to the genus *Euchilotheca* (Fam. Cavoliniidæ)¹; and which forms the subject of the present communication.

EUCHILOTHECA, Fischer.

Type.—*Cleodora Parisiensis*, Deshayes, Desc. Anim. sans Vert. 1861, t. 2, p. 187, pl. iii. figs. 15–17 (= *Vaginella* (?) *succincta*, DeFrance).

This differs from the closely allied genus *Thecopsella*, Munier-Chalmas, by reason of its irregular shape, whilst its embryo is slightly less dilated. M. Cossmann,² acting on the authority of M. Munier-Chalmas, includes this genus amongst the Cæcidæ, though he seems very doubtful as to the correctness of so doing. He remarks that the classification of both this and *Thecopsella* will not be definitive until longitudinal sections of the shells are cut to ascertain whether any transverse septa are present, as in *Cæcum*. It seems to me, however, that this point is already resolved. M. DeFrance³ and MM. Dollfus and Raymond⁴ give excellent figures of a longitudinal section of *E. succincta* (the type of the genus), and no septa are shown; neither are any present in the English species about to be described. I therefore follow MM. Deshayes, Fischer, Dollfus, Raymond and other French authors, in regarding *Euchilotheca* as a Pteropod.

EUCHILOTHECA ELEGANS, n.sp.

Gadus coangustatus, Edwards MS.

Siphonodentalium breve, R. B. Newton. — Syst. List Edwards Collection British Museum, 1891, p. 287.

Shell elongate, cylindro-conical, tapering posteriorly, shining, extremely thin and fragile, with no surface ornamentation; margin

¹ Fischer, Journ. Conchyl. (Paris), 1882, sér. iii. t. xxii. p. 59.

² Ann. Soc. Roy. Malac. de Belgique, 1888, t. xxiii. p. 294.

³ Dict. Sc. Nat. 1828, t. lvi. p. 427; Atlas Conchyl. pl. xvii. figs. 5a, b.

⁴ Ann. Soc. Roy. Malac. de Belgique, 1885, t. xx. p. 43, pl. iii. fig. 4b.

of anterior end at right angles to the axis reflected outwardly, moderately thickened; central portion of test slightly arched.

Length of specimen 5.5 mm.; maximum diameter nearly 1.5 mm.

Formation.—Bracklesham Beds. *Locality.*—Bracklesham Bay.

The sole example on which this species is founded is, unfortunately, not in a very good condition, its pointed extremity being incomplete; if restored the shell would, no doubt, reach as much as 8 mm. in length. The remains, however, are sufficiently characteristic to prevent confusion with any other genus; and it seemed desirable to place the matter on record. Its nearest ally is *E. succincta*, DeFrance, from the Calcaire Grossier (Middle Eocene) of the Paris basin, which is a smaller form (4 to 5 mm.), thinner, having an oblique orifice, with a more pronounced thickened edge, and more undulating in its length.



Euchilotheca elegans, n.sp.
